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Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Group Art Unit 2176, Expedited Procedure

In re Application of:

Docket No. 35.C12943

EIJI TAKASU ET AL.

Application No.: 09/148,474

Examiner: C. Paula

Filed: September 8, 1998

Group Art Unit: 2176

For: INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD
AND APPARATUS AND STORAGE
MEDIUM THEREOF

Date: November 26, 2001

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Box AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	* 31	MINUS	** 31	= 0	x \$9 \$18	\$0
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 6	MINUS	*** 6	= 0	x \$40 \$80	\$0
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims \$135°/\$270						\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT---						\$0

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

☐ °Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

☐ Charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

☒ A check in the amount of \$ 400.00 to cover the fee for a two-month extension is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.

☒ Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

ZLP Diana
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 28 46

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Form #120

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2/11/02

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Group Art Unit 2176, Expedited Procedure

35.C12943

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
EIJI TAKASU ET AL.)
Application No.: 09/148,474)
Filed: September 8, 1998)
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING)
METHOD AND APPARATUS AND)
STORAGE MEDIUM THEREOF)

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November 26, 2001

Commissioner of Patents
Box AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
AND
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Applicants petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action of June 25, 2001, to November 26, 2001 (November 25, 2001 being a Sunday). A check in the amount of \$400.00 in payment of the extension fee is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee and credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account 06-1205.

01/30/2002 SSITHIB1 00000141 09148474

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400.00 OP

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on
November 26, 2001
(Date of Deposit)

LEONARD P. DIANA (Reg. No. 29,296)
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

November 26, 2001
Date of Signature

In response to the Office Action of June 25, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and passage to issue of the above-identified application, in view of the following remarks:

Claims 1-31 are in this application, of which Claims 1, 10, 14, 26, 30 and 31 are independent.

Claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mosher, MS Exchange Users Handbook (3/1/97), in view of U.S. Patent 5,590,257 (Forcier).

Independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing method that comprises storing a received mail document including text data and ink data, an ink image being reproduced from the ink data and overlaid on a text image reproduced from the text data when the mail document is reproduced. The method also includes deriving a shift amount of an output position of the ink image according to a character string inserted into the text image when a new document quoting the received mail document is prepared, and according to a format of the character string, and outputting the text image with the inserted character string, the ink image being shifted according to the derived shift amount.

Initially, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly allowable over *Mosher* taken alone, and from the Office Action, it is believed that the Examiner agrees with Applicants on that point.

Newly-cited *Forcier* '257 relates to performing word wrapping to characters inputted by handwriting. For this purpose, *Forcier* '257 inputs the handwritten character into the line sequentially and discriminates the boundary of a word. If the handwritten

character runs over (extends beyond the end of the line)., *Forcier* '257 performs the wordwrap function.

That is, *Forcier* '257 inputs the handwritten character and characters inputted from the keyboard to the same line, and if the character runs past the end of the line, performs the wordwrap function.

In contrast, the method of Claim 1 involves displaying the ink image and the text image overlaid with each other, rather than inputting an ink image and a text image to the same line. In *Forcier* '257, since in principle the ink and the text are inputted as characters within the same line, if the line is shifted, both the ink image and the text are shifted as a matter of course. In contrast, in a method according to Claim 1, since the ink image and the text image are overlaid when reproduced, the ink image is not shifted only by shifting the text image. Rather, the method of Claim 1 employs the special feature of shifting the ink image in accordance with the shift amount of the text image.

Even if combined (assuming such combination to be proper), *Forcier* '257 and *Mosher* would not provide or suggest displaying a text image and an ink image in an overlaid state at the time of reproducing. For at least this reason, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly allowable over those two documents, taken separately or in combination.

Each of the other independent claims is believed to be allowable over those documents for substantially the same reasons as is Claim 1.

A review of the other art of record, has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as


references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

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